

Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors



consumer**brief**

The Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors consists of nine members appointed by the Governor. Three of the members are qualified electrical contractors; one member is a qualified electrical inspector; one is a qualified journeyman; two are public members not associated with the electrical industry; one is a licensed professional engineer and one is a representative of State government.

THE PURPOSE OF THE BOARD IS:

- to protect the health, safety and welfare of the people of New Jersey;
- to regulate the practice of electrical contracting; and
- to ensure that electrical contracting is performed in a safe manner.

HOW DOES THE BOARD ACCOMPLISH ITS PURPOSE?

The Board protects the public:

- by ensuring that all electrical contractors meet the experience and educational requirements of the Board;
- by investigating and prosecuting electrical contractors who have violated the Electrical Contractors Licensing Act of 1962; and
- by requiring that all electrical contractors be licensed and hold a valid business permit, which is renewed every three years.

WHAT ARE MY RIGHTS AS A CONSUMER IF I HAVE A COMPLAINT AGAINST AN ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR?

Every consumer has a right to file a complaint against an electrical contractor. You may obtain a complaint form

by writing to:

Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors
124 Halsey Street
P.O. Box 45006
Newark, New Jersey 07101.

You may also obtain a complaint form by calling 973-504-6410 or by going to

www.NJConsumerAffairs.gov/complaint/eleccom.pdf on the Web.

HOW ARE COMPLAINTS RESOLVED?

If the complaint is within the Board's jurisdiction:

- the complaint may be referred to an investigator who may contact you for additional information;
- the electrical contractor will be asked to respond to your concerns; and
- the Board will evaluate the complaint and the licensee's response to determine if there was a violation of the electrical contracting laws.



800-242-5846 • www.NJConsumerAffairs.gov

Office of the Attorney General



New Jersey Division of
**Consumer
Affairs**

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

- If the Board believes a violation did occur, the Board may call for an inquiry to investigate the complaint. If the testimony warrants it, the Board may then schedule a formal hearing. This is a disciplinary proceeding. The Board may then take actions ranging from letters of admonishment to license suspension or revocation, and imposing penalties.
- During disciplinary proceedings, licensees may be represented by an attorney and are given the right to demonstrate their compliance with the law. Once the Board has taken action against the licensee, he or she has the right to appeal the action.
- You will be notified, in writing, when the complaint is resolved.

CONSUMER TIPS

- Contact the Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors to make sure you are hiring a licensed electrical contractor who has a current license and business permit and is in good standing. The number to call is 973-504-6410.
- Do comparison shopping before hiring an electrical contractor. Solicit at least two or three bids, based on the same materials, labor and time needed to complete the project.
- Be sure to get everything in writing and read all contracts carefully before signing anything. Your contract should state that the work is to be performed in accordance with all applicable building codes.
- Do not sign a partial or blank contract.
- Excluding downpayments, pay only for completed work. Discuss with your electrical contractor the stages of work to be done, and pay as the work is finished.
- Check with your local building department and the electrical subcode official, before the job is started, to find out if a permit is required and who is responsible for obtaining the permit.

- In addition to being licensed, electrical contractors have a business permit which shows their business name and business permit number. Ask to see the contractor's business permit ID card to verify the information he or she has given you.
- Check references.

If you have any questions you may contact the Board at 800-242-5846, 973-504-6410, or via e-mail at AskConsumerAffairs@lps.state.nj.us.



New Jersey Office of the Attorney General DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS



NEWARK

124 Halsey Street
P.O. Box 45025
Newark, NJ 07101
973-504-6200
800-242-5846
(toll free within N.J.)

E-Mail: AskConsumerAffairs@dca.lps.state.nj.us

website:

www.NJConsumerAffairs.gov

800-242-5846 • www.NJConsumerAffairs.gov

Office of the Attorney General



**New Jersey Division of
Consumer
Affairs**